

NPS Form 10-900
(Rev. 10-90)



United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
REGISTRATION FORM

This form is for use in nominating or requesting determinations for individual properties and districts. See instructions in How to Complete the National Register of Historic Places Registration Form (National Register Bulletin 16A).

Complete each item by marking "x" in the appropriate box or by entering the information requested. If any item does not apply to the property being documented, enter "N/A" for "not applicable." For functions, architectural classification, materials, and areas of significance, enter only categories and subcategories from the instructions. Place additional entries and narrative items on continuation sheets (NPS Form 10-900a). Use a typewriter, word processor, or computer, to complete all items.

1. Name of Property

historic name **Ross, Harvey Lee, House**

other names/site number _____

2. Location

street & number **602 South Main Street** not for publication ___
city or town **Vermont** vicinity ___
state **Illinois** code **IL** county **Fulton** code **057** zip code **61484**

3. State/Federal Agency Certification

As the designated authority under the National Historic Preservation Act of 1986, as amended, I hereby certify that this nomination ___ request for determination of eligibility meets the documentation standards for registering properties in the National Register of Historic Places and meets the procedural and professional requirements set forth in 36 CFR Part 60. In my opinion, the property meets ___ does not meet the National Register Criteria. I recommend that this property be considered significant ___ nationally ___ statewide locally. (___ See continuation sheet for additional comments.)

William L. Wheeler / SHP
Signature of certifying official

10-1-96
Date

Illinois Historic Preservation Agency
State or Federal agency and bureau

Name of related multiple property listing (Enter "N/A" if property is not part of a multiple property listing.) **Architectural and Historic Resources of Vermont, Illinois**

6. Function or Use

Historic Functions (Enter categories from instructions)

Cat: Domestic	Sub: Single Dwelling
Domestic	Secondary Structure
Agriculture	Animal Facility
Agriculture	Agricultural Outbuilding

_____	_____
_____	_____
_____	_____

Current Functions (Enter categories from instructions)

Cat: Domestic	Sub: Single Dwelling
Domestic	Secondary Structure
Agriculture	Animal Facility
Agriculture	Agricultural Outbuilding

_____	_____
_____	_____
_____	_____

7. Description

Architectural Classification (Enter categories from instructions)

Greek Revival
Other: Three-Portal Barn

Materials (Enter categories from instructions)

foundation Brick
roof Asphalt
walls Wood

other Metal

Narrative Description (Describe the historic and current condition of the property on one or more continuation sheets.)

8. Statement of Significance

Applicable National Register Criteria (Mark "x" in one or more boxes for the criteria qualifying the property for National Register listing)

- A Property is associated with events that have made a significant contribution to the broad patterns of our history.
- B Property is associated with the lives of persons significant in our past.
- C Property embodies the distinctive characteristics of a type, period, or method of construction or represents the work of a

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
CONTINUATION SHEET

Section 7 Page 1 Ross, Harvey Lee, House
name of property
Fulton County, Illinois
county and State
Architectural and Historic Resources of Vermont
name of multiple property listing

=====

Description

The Harvey Lee Ross House is a two story, frame side-gabled Greek Revival house built in c. 1858. It has many Greek Revival features including its cornice with dentils, cornice returns, corner pilasters, a one-story wood porch with Doric columns, six-over-six windows, and front entry door with sidelights and transom. Four small one story frame extensions attach to the west, rear of the house and contain the kitchen, pantry, back porch, bath, and storage areas. These additions were built at various times during the late 1800s and early 1900s. The original house has a brick foundation. The additions have brick and tile block foundations. The gable and hipped roofs are covered with asphalt shingles. The flat roofed additions are covered with tar paper and rubber. There is one chimney located on the north wall of the front section of the house. The original house is covered with 4 1/8" wide wooden clapboard siding. It is located on the south edge of the village of Vermont, in southwestern Fulton County. It fronts east onto South Main Street which continues approximately six miles southeasterly to U.S. Route 24. Built as a farmstead, the property includes several frame outbuildings including a salt box shaped summer kitchen, a gable roofed three-portal barn, garage, two sheds, chicken coop, and privy. North of the property are late 19th century homes. Across the street to the east is a mixture of hall and parlor, pyramidal, and modern ranch houses. To the south and west of the property are grain fields. Immediately north of the house is a small pasture for livestock. The property is in excellent condition. A drawing of the house, summer kitchen, and three-portal barn were featured in the 1871 Atlas Map of Fulton County, Illinois, although the perspective showing the location of the barn and summer kitchen is wrong. In the drawing, the summer kitchen and barn are shown to the southeast of the house while the barn and summer kitchen are actually to the southwest of the house. The drawing may have been done this way to make it easier to show all three structures. It is not believed the barn and summer kitchen have been moved.

The house's floor plan is symmetrical with a central hall extending from east to west, with rooms located on either side of the hall. The one-story wood porch extends across the three central bays of the house. It has four Doric wood columns across the front and two Doric engaged columns at the junction of the porch and house. There are small Italianate styled brackets at the porch's cornice line. Above the flat roof of the porch is an original decorative cast iron balustrade. Windows in the house are double-hung and most have

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
CONTINUATION SHEET

Section 7 Page 2 Ross, Harvey Lee, House
name of property
Fulton County, Illinois
county and State
Architectural and Historic Resources of Vermont
name of multiple property listing

=====

six-over-six panes. The windows have wooden entablatures with wooden sills. A concrete sidewalk runs west from a front north/south sidewalk to the front porch steps. The front or east facade first story has from left to right two, six-over-six windows, the central entry door with sidelights and transom and two, six-over-six windows. The entryway has an entablature with a four-pane transom and small brackets. Pilasters enframe the sidelights on either side of the entry. Above on the second story are five evenly spaced six-over-six windows.

The north elevation has two evenly spaced windows on both the first and second stories. To the west is the one-story kitchen and bath room, rectangular-shaped wing believed to have been added in the 1880s. This wing has a low-pitched hipped roof. It has been covered with synthetic siding. The north elevation of the kitchen wing has four fixed single pane windows. The west wall of the kitchen wing has a two-over-two window. Attached to this wing on the south wall and attached to the west wall of the original house is a small one story rectangular shaped storage wing that extends to the southwest. The flat roofed wing was built in the 1900s and has a tile block foundation. The walls of this wing have been covered with synthetic siding. On this wing's south elevation is a two-over-two window.

Attached to the kitchen wing on the west side is a small one story pantry wing believed to have been built in the early 1900s. This L-shaped wing is covered with a flat roof and the walls have been covered with synthetic siding. Beginning at the north of the west elevation of this wing is a one-over-one window, a fixed six-pane window, and a small one-over-one window. A small frame wing is located to the southwest of the pantry wing located in the ell. The flat roofed, rectangular shaped wing was added in the early 1900s and has been covered with synthetic siding. A doorway is located on the south elevation and has a modern metal storm door.

The west elevation first story of the original house has a single window towards the north. Above on the second story are three evenly spaced windows across the west elevation. The center window has two-over-two panes.

The south elevation of the main house has two windows on both the first and second stories.

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
CONTINUATION SHEET

Section 7 Page 3 Ross, Harvey Lee, House
name of property
Fulton County, Illinois
county and State
Architectural and Historic Resources of Vermont
name of multiple property listing

=====

Interior

The interior has a central hall plan with rooms on either side of both the first and second stories. The original wooden front door has two upper vertical panels with four smaller panels beneath. The doorway is surrounded by a three-light transom and sidelights. Ceilings on the first story are 9' 10" high. Rooms throughout the house have plaster walls and ceilings. Most of the floors on the first story were modernized with narrow oak floors in the early 1900s. The floors on the second story have four-inch wide pine boards. Most of the floors have been covered with carpet. The main staircase runs along the south wall of the central hall. It has a turned newel post with turned balusters. The newel post, balusters, and railing are cherry. Woodwork throughout the house is painted with only the staircase having stained wood. The door and window woodwork in the main part of the house is Greek Revival styled with fluting and entablatures. A large double doorway on the north wall leads to the formal parlor. The doorway has a six-light transom above with five-pane sidelights on either side. The woodwork is fluted and has an entablature. The original paired wood paneled doors were replaced in the early 1900s with paired French doors with multi-panes of glass. Along the south wall of the central hall is a doorway to the family parlor. It has fluted woodwork, an entablature, and transom. To the rear of the central hall is a four-paneled door that leads to a storage area underneath the main staircase and to the rear wing. The storage area walls are covered with original narrow tongue-and-groove panelling.

The 23' 4" x 16' 2" formal parlor to the north of the central hall extends the entire depth of the original house. It has a centered fireplace along the north wall with a wood mantel with Doric influenced pilasters with fluting. The firebox has been covered with plaster. Windows and door woodwork in this room have fluting with entablatures.

The 13' 9" x 15' 6" family parlor to the south of the central hall has decorative wood panels beneath the windows. Window and door woodwork in this room also have fluting and entablatures. A large doorway that originally contained pocket doors leads to the west to the dining room. The pocket doors were removed at an unknown date.

The 9' 4" x 15' 6" dining room to the west of the family parlor has plain woodwork with simple entablatures. Three doors along the west wall lead to various one-story frame extensions added during the early 1900s. The south door leads to a small closet. The

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
CONTINUATION SHEET

Section 7 Page 4 Ross, Harvey Lee, House
name of property
Fulton County, Illinois
county and State
Architectural and Historic Resources of Vermont
name of multiple property listing

=====

central door leads to a small bathroom. The north door leads to the kitchen and pantry wing.

The kitchen wing to the west of the original house has a 16' 4" x 9' 7" kitchen with a 8' 2" x 8' pantry to its west. An enclosed entryway west of the kitchen and south of the pantry leads to the back yard.

The main staircase leads up to the west to the second story. The cherry rail and balusters continues around to the east forming an open railing around the staircase. The second story has a central hall with rooms on either side. Window and door woodwork on this floor is simple with entablatures. Doorways aligned along the central hallway have transoms. Two bedrooms are located on the south side of the hall with two bedrooms on the north side of the hall. The large master bedroom is located to the northeast. The small rear bedroom to its west has an enclosed stairway that leads to the south to the attic. The attic has a rough sawn wood floor and exposed circular sawn rafters and joists. The roof appears to originally have been covered with wide boards with wood shingles.

Summer Kitchen

A saltbox shaped summer kitchen is located to the southeast of the house. The one story frame building has clapboard siding and was built c. 1858. The roof is covered with metal. The building has a brick foundation. Beginning at the east end of the north elevation is an entryway with a modern metal and glass storm door and a four-panel wood door. To its south is a two-over-two window. On the west elevation are two, fixed six-pane windows. The south elevation has no openings. Beginning at the south end of the east elevation is a tongue-and-groove wood door. To the north is a two-over-two window. The interior has tongue-and-groove wood walls and a plaster ceiling. It is a contributing building.

Shed/Garage

A one-story frame shed/garage is located immediately to the south of the summer kitchen. The one-car garage was built c. late 1800s and has vertical clapboard siding and a gabled metal roof. The foundation is brick. On the east elevation are folding wooden doors. The north elevation has no openings. On the west elevation is a small shed roofed storage

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
CONTINUATION SHEET

Section 7 Page 5 Ross, Harvey Lee, House
name of property
Fulton County, Illinois
county and State
Architectural and Historic Resources of Vermont
name of multiple property listing

=====

shed that was added on to the garage. Above it is a window that has been boarded over. The south elevation has a six-over-six window. It is a contributing building.

Privy

A frame, gable-roofed privy built c. late 1800s is located southwest of the garage and summer kitchen. The clapboard sided building has an asphalt shingled roof. A wooden door is located on the south elevation. It is a contributing building.

Shed

A frame, gable-roofed c. late 1800s storage shed is located adjacent to and west of the privy. The one-story building has vertical clapboard walls and a metal roof. Large folding wood doors are located on the south elevation of this building. It is a contributing building.

Barn

A large three-portal frame barn is located south of the storage shed and privy. The c. 1858 barn has large sawn and hewn mortise, tenon, and pegged frame construction typical of pre-Civil War barn construction. The large gable roof is covered with metal and has an overhanging hayhood on the north elevation. The walls are covered with vertical wood siding. The foundation is brick and frame. Gable end entrances are located in both the south and north elevations. Beginning at the east end of the south elevation is a large sliding wood door. To the west are two smaller doorways and a large open entrance to the cattle stalls. A small rectangular window is located near the apex of the gable. The west and east elevations have no openings. Beginning at the east end of the north elevation is a large sliding wood door. In the center are two, four-pane windows. To the west is a large sliding wood door. Above is a large haydoor below the overhanging hay hood. The interior of the barn has a ground-floor drive along the east, feed and storage areas in the center that are on a raised wooden floor and cattle stalls to the west. The upstairs has a overhead hayloft and threshing floor underneath the large gable roof. The barn is a contributing building.

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
CONTINUATION SHEET

Section 7 Page 6 Ross, Harvey Lee, House
name of property
Fulton County, Illinois
county and State
Architectural and Historic Resources of Vermont
name of multiple property listing

=====

Machine Shed

To the south of the barn is a c. 1910s machine shed. The one-story frame building has a metal covered shed roof. The walls are covered with vertical wood siding. It is a contributing building.

Chicken Coop

A small one-story frame chicken coop built c. early 1920s is located north of the barn. The building has a metal covered shed roof and walls covered with vertical siding. The chicken coop is a contributing structure.

master, or possesses high artistic values, or represents a significant and distinguishable entity whose components lack individual distinction.

D Property has yielded, or is likely to yield information important in prehistory or history.

Criteria Considerations (Mark "X" in all the boxes that apply.)

A owned by a religious institution or used for religious purposes.

B removed from its original location.

C a birthplace or a grave.

D a cemetery.

E a reconstructed building, object, or structure.

F a commemorative property.

G less than 50 years of age or achieved significance within the past 50 years.

Areas of Significance (Enter categories from instructions)

Architecture

Commerce

Period of Significance **c. 1858-c. early 1920s, Criterion C**
c. 1858 - 1873, Criterion B

Significant Dates **1869**

Significant Person (Complete if Criterion B is marked above)
Ross, Harvey Lee

Cultural Affiliation **N/A**

Architect/Builder **Unknown**

Narrative Statement of Significance (Explain the significance of the property on one or more continuation sheets.)

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
CONTINUATION SHEET

Section	<u>8</u>	Page	<u>7</u>	Ross, Harvey Lee, House
				name of property
				Fulton County, Illinois
				county and State
				Architectural and Historic Resources of Vermont
				name of multiple property listing

=====

Narrative Statement of Significance

The Harvey Lee Ross House is locally significant for listing in the National Register of Historic Places. It meets Criterion B for commerce for the role of Harvey Lee Ross in the commercial development of the village of Vermont and of the development of the Rushville Branch of the Chicago, Burlington, and Quincy Railroad through Vermont. The period of significance for Criterion B is c. 1858, the year the house was believed to have been constructed for Harvey Lee Ross to 1873, when he moved to Macomb, Illinois. The house also meets Criterion C for architecture as an excellent example of a Greek Revival styled residence in the village of Vermont. The home has many Greek Revival features including its elaborate entry with sidelights and divided-light transom, original front porch with Doric columns, corner pilasters, dentils, cornice returns, and six-over-six windows with entablatures. The house also has some Italianate detailing with its small decorative brackets at the front porch cornice line and above the front entryway. The Harvey Lee Ross House has a number of historic outbuildings including a c. 1858 summer kitchen and c. 1858 three-portal, gable roofed barn. These surviving outbuildings provide an architectural link to the area's rich agricultural past. They follow traditional building forms and are solidly built of mortise, tenon and pegged timbers and frame construction. These outbuildings served the production needs of the farm, along with the personal needs of the Ross and Bellangee families who occupied the property from the 1843 through the early 1900s. The barn and summer kitchen as well as the sheds, chicken coop, and privy stand as part of the house site and are important because of their traditional forms and functions, and because of the feelings and associations in company with each other and the house, that they convey. Its period of significance for architecture is c. 1858, the year the house, summer kitchen, and three-portal barn was believed to have been built to c. 1920s when the chicken coop was built. The Harvey Lee Ross House meets the registration requirements of the single dwelling and outbuilding property types in the "Architectural and Historic Resources of Vermont, Illinois" Multiple Property Documentation Form.

Architecture

For a discussion of the Greek Revival and Italianate styles please refer to the Multiple Property Documentation Form, "Architectural and Historic Resources of Vermont, Illinois."

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
CONTINUATION SHEET

Section 8 Page 8 Ross, Harvey Lee, House
name of property
Fulton County, Illinois
county and State
Architectural and Historic Resources of Vermont
name of multiple property listing

=====

The Harvey Lee Ross House built in c. 1858, is a good example of a Greek Revival styled house with some Italianate detailing. The house was built at a time when the Greek Revival style was losing its popularity to the newer, fashionable Italianate style. The house is predominantly Greek Revival styled but has a few details of the Italianate style with its bracketed front porch and small brackets above the front entryway. Elements of the Greek Revival style on the house include its elaborate entry with sidelights and divided-light transom, front porch with Doric columns, corner pilasters, low-pitched gable roof, dentils, cornice returns, and six-over-six windows with entablatures. The front porch also has an original decorative cast iron balustrade. The house with its original front porch was depicted in a drawing in the 1871 Atlas Map of Fulton County by Andreas, Lyter & Company. The interior also features many Greek Revival details including a wood fireplace mantel with fluted pilasters, fluted door and window woodwork, and an elaborate interior entryway to the north, formal parlor with sidelights and transoms.

Although the house has had four, small one-story additions to the rear of the house, built between the 1880s and early 1900s, it still maintains its historic integrity of setting, location, design, materials, association, and feeling. The frame additions were covered with synthetic siding sometime in the 1950s. The additions only attach to the rear, west wall of the house. The front, east elevation as well as the north and south elevations remain intact as they were originally built. The Harvey Lee Ross House is comparable to other Greek Revival styled houses in town as one of the best examples left that maintains its historic integrity.

Other Greek Revival styled houses in town include the Milton I. and Roxanna Amrine House at 208 East Fourth Street. The two-story front gabled house was built in 1864 and has a side-hall plan. The frame house was a cornice with dentils and cornice returns, six-over-six windows, and an elaborate entry with sidelights and transom. The house has been covered with synthetic siding and the small entry porch's original wood supports have been replaced by wrought iron posts and rails.

The George Swartz House at 411 North Main Street was built c. 1850s. The two-story frame building has a side-gabled roof. The house has dentils in the end gables and cornice returns. The house has a central entry with transom and sidelights and six-over-six windows. The house has been covered with asbestos siding and the porch was updated in the early 1900s with rock-faced concrete block piers and foundation. The interior has been

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
CONTINUATION SHEET

Section 8 Page 9 Ross, Harvey Lee, House
name of property
Fulton County, Illinois
county and State
Architectural and Historic Resources of Vermont
name of multiple property listing

=====

converted to apartments and most of the walls have been covered with modern panelling. However, many of the shouldered architraves still exist above the doors and windows. The house was recently painted in a beige, rust, and green color scheme.

The Stapleford-Hoover-Whitney House at 401 North Main Street was built in c. 1855 as a brick, two-story, Greek Revival influenced I-house. When originally built the house had a low-pitched gable or flat roof and six-over-six windows. The house has horizontal stone sills and lintels, an elaborate entry with divided transom and sidelights, and an elaborate tripartite window above the front entry. The house was updated in the 1870s with new Italianate and Gothic Revival inspired porches and a raised hipped roof. In 1892 the house was again updated with one-over-one windows, a three-sided, two-story window bay, and some stained glass windows.

Outbuildings

The c. 1858 summer kitchen and c. 1858 three-portal barn stand as part of the Harvey Lee Ross House complex. They are architecturally important because of their traditional mortise, tenon, and pegged construction and illustrate their association with the working agricultural farm of Harvey Lee Ross, Aaron Belangee and subsequent farm owners of this property. The other outbuildings as well as the summer kitchen and barn served the production needs of the farm, along with the more personal needs of the residents of the Harvey Lee Ross House and are a close architectural link to the Vermont area's rich agricultural past.

Hubert G. H. Wilhelm in his article "Midwestern Barns and Their Germanic Connections" in Barns of the Midwest, edited by Allen G. Noble and Hubert G. H. Wilhelm describes the three-portal barn as a popular type that was found all over the midwest and south where it became known as a horse barn or feeder barn. Its diagnostic features are gable entrances, huge roof, and large haydoor with an overhanging hayhood. In recent years, the name "three-portal barn" has been applied to this structure.¹

The three-portal barn has been linked with Appalachian folk structures, especially the transverse crib barn which has a central drive parallel to the roof ridge. Next to the drive are corn cribs and stalls. There is an overhead hayloft underneath a large roof. Most

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
CONTINUATION SHEET

Section 8 Page 10 Ross, Harvey Lee, House
name of property
Fulton County, Illinois
county and State
Architectural and Historic Resources of Vermont
name of multiple property listing

=====

transverse crib barns tend to be longer than wide. This barn probably had its origin in the log-building practices of the Upland South.²

The three-portal barn has also been linked with barns known as the "New World Dutch Barn" found in Dutch settlements in the Hudson Valley and German settlements in western Ohio and neighboring Indiana. These barns have a central drive that extends from the threshing floor and lies parallel with the roof ridge. Cow stanchions and horse boxes face toward the central drive. There is a large steeply pitched roof over the lower part, where hay, sheaves of grain, and straw are stored. This type has antecedents in German and Dutch housebarns.

The three-portal barn became the standard farm structure throughout the south and midwest in the late-nineteenth through early twentieth centuries. Traditional mortise, tenon, and pegged construction is found on the three-portal barn built for Harvey Lee Ross. Ross was a farmer and maintained livestock herds as well as agricultural fields and fruit orchards. The barn probably housed horses and cattle as well as feed and hay and grain for his farming operation. Today, the barn houses cattle, feed, and hay. The three-portal barn has a large gabled roof, aisles parallel to the roof line, doorways in the gable ends, and a large haymow underneath the roof. Very few three-portal barns survive in the Vermont area as much of the area to the southeast and northwest of town was strip mined in the 1950s through 1970s, destroying many farmsteads. A three-portal barn was known to have existed at the Patterson Hamer House at 405 West Fifth Street but it has been demolished.

History

Please refer to the "Architectural and Historic Resources of Vermont, Illinois" Multiple Property Documentation Form for the discussion of the development of commerce and the railroad in Vermont. The Harvey Lee Ross House is significant for Criterion B for the life of Harvey Lee Ross for commerce for his role in the development of the railroad through Vermont.

Harvey Lee Ross was born in Seneca County, New York on October 10, 1817, the second son of Ossian Major Ross and Mary (Winans) Ross. As part of his war bounty from the War of 1812, Captain Ossian M. Ross was given 320 acres of land by the federal

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
CONTINUATION SHEET

Section 8 Page 11 Ross, Harvey Lee, House
name of property
Fulton County, Illinois
county and State
Architectural and Historic Resources of Vermont
name of multiple property listing

=====

government. In 1820, Ossian M. Ross, his family, a few companions, and some hired workmen set out for the Military Tract in Illinois to settle his land. They arrived in Alton late in 1820 and in 1821 they sailed up the Illinois River in a keel boat arriving at the mouth of Otter Creek in present day southeast Fulton County. Due to heavy rains and flooding, Ross decided to move up north. The party sailed farther north up the Illinois River to Spoon River and landed in Waterford Township at the homestead of John Eveland, the first settler of Fulton County. Workmen were sent ahead to cut down trees and clear the road to the present day location of Lewistown where Ross's property was situated. Ross's family followed and a temporary log shelter was built immediately for the family. A permanent log house was constructed soon after.

In 1822, Ossian Ross platted the town of Lewistown, named for his nine-year old son, Lewis. He donated land for a courthouse, jail, and a church. While in Lewistown, Ossian Ross was engaged in mercantile trade with settlers and the few remaining Indians in the area. He was also the first sheriff and the first postmaster in Fulton County. In 1829 he moved to Havana, Illinois, where he platted the town, built a large hotel known as the Havana Hotel, and ran a ferry across the Illinois River. In 1837, he passed away and his widow and children relocated to Canton, in Fulton County, Illinois.

Harvey Lee Ross had very little education during his childhood. He attended a log schoolhouse in the Lewistown area. At the age of fifteen, Harvey Lee Ross was employed to carry the mail from Springfield to Monmouth, a distance of 135 miles, making a trip a week. The post offices on the route were Springfield, Sangamo Town, New Salem, Havana, Lewistown, Canton, Farmington, Knoxville, and Monmouth. In 1836, he attended Illinois College in Jacksonville but had to return home due to the death of his father.

In 1838, Harvey Lee Ross returned to Havana and took charge of his father's business interests. He operated the Havana Hotel (demolished); ran a ferry across the Illinois River; owned a wood yard for steamboats; was a commission merchant; owned three large storage warehouses; kept a livery stable; had a stage route from Springfield to Lewistown, which made three trips per week; was postmaster at Havana; owned a large farm; and was extensively engaged in stock raising. On January 1, 1840, Ross and Jane R. Kirkpatrick, the daughter of Charles and Harriet W. (Churchill) Kirkpatrick of Canton, Illinois, were married in Canton. Jane R. Kirkpatrick was a sister to Mary Dilworth, the wife of Robert Dilworth of Vermont, Illinois.

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
CONTINUATION SHEET

Section 8 Page 12 Ross, Harvey Lee, House
name of property
Fulton County, Illinois
county and State
Architectural and Historic Resources of Vermont
name of multiple property listing

=====

In 1844, Ross sold his business interests in Havana and moved to Vermont, Illinois where he purchased fifty acres adjoining the town on the south. At the time only five acres of the farm was in cultivation and there was a log house on the land. Harvey Lee Ross immediately began making improvements to his farm adjoining the booming village of Vermont. He soon acquired neighboring farms until he had 300 acres. Among the improvements he made were the planting of over one thousand apple trees. These trees yielded in some years, over 10,000 bushels of apples for market. Ross erected a cider mill and press which was capable of making twenty barrels of cider per day. He also purchased and farmed over 1,000 acres of land in McDonough County to the west of Vermont.

While continuing farming, Ross expanded his business interests in town building a brick store building on the south side of the town square (demolished). He was engaged in the mercantile trade in Vermont for over fifteen years. He was also a buyer and shipper of grain and ran a pork packing firm. In 1859, Ross was appointed agent and supervisor of the Vermont Branch of the Jacksonville State Bank, the first bank established in the county.

Ross noting that a railroad would bring economic gain and increased prosperity to Vermont and for his business enterprises became a leading promoter of a railroad through Vermont in the 1860s. The 1878 History of McDonough County reported that fund drives were held by the citizens of Vermont to sell shares of stock and subscriptions for a new railroad line from Lewistown to Rushville, Illinois in 1867 and 1868. The line would connect with the Chicago, Burlington, & Quincy Railroad line that ran from Yates City to Lewistown. Harvey Lee Ross was actively involved in speaking at public meetings in support of the railroad. To help raise the necessary \$30,000 the Chicago, Burlington, & Quincy Railroad required to build the line through Vermont, Ross subscribed \$3,000, gave the right of way for the line through his farm, and donated land for the depot on his farm land east of his house. Ross also served as a director of the railroad in the late 1860s and 1870s. By March 27, 1868, the necessary money was raised and construction on the new line started immediately. The first train ran over the road on July 4, 1869.³

In 1873 Ross traded a portion of his farm on the south edge of Vermont for a two hundred-acre farm near the city of Macomb. He soon moved to Macomb and continued farming. He lived in the area until 1881 when he moved to the Oakland, California area. At the time of his moving to California, Ross owned fourteen farms in McDonough County and farms in

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
CONTINUATION SHEET

Section 8 Page 13 Ross, Harvey Lee, House
name of property
Fulton County, Illinois
county and State
Architectural and Historic Resources of Vermont
name of multiple property listing

=====

Fulton County. Ross became involved in the temperance movement in California and attended state and national prohibition conventions in 1884.⁴

Harvey Lee and Jane R. Ross had five children who survived to adulthood, Harriet S. Hall, Frank W. Ross, Mary F. Childs, George C. Ross, and Joseph L. Ross. On December 28, 1896, Jane R. (Kirkpatrick) Ross, the wife of Harvey Lee Ross, died and was buried in Mountainview Cemetery, Oakland, California. In 1899, Harvey Lee Ross completed his book The Early Pioneers and Pioneer Events of the State of Illinois. The book contained personal recollections of settlers in Fulton and Mason Counties, recollections of Abraham Lincoln and Peter Cartwright, and an autobiography of Harvey Lee Ross and his family. On January 27, 1907, Harvey Lee Ross died and was also buried in Mountainview Cemetery.

The Harvey Lee Ross House remains as the last known building associated with Ross's life in Vermont, Illinois. The house built c. 1858 was occupied by the Ross family until 1873. His two-story brick store building on the south side of the Vermont public square was demolished in the 1910s. It is not known if his residences still exist in the Macomb, Illinois area or Oakland, California. The house in Vermont represents the time when Ross was heavily involved in the development of the Chicago, Burlington, & Quincy Railroad through Vermont which dramatically changed transportation and shipping for Vermont's farmers, merchants, and citizens.

After Harvey Lee Ross left Vermont in 1873, the house and surrounding farm was sold to Aaron A. Bellangee and his wife. Bellangee was a prominent farmer in the area and a leader in the Quaker church, northeast of town. Bellangee published a diary of his life in the Quaker church, and a copy of it is available at the Illinois State Historic Library. Bellangee platted two small additions to the village of Vermont in the early 1890s north of the Harvey Lee Ross House. Following his death in the early 1910s, the property was occupied by his daughter, Rebecca, and her husband, Marshall Freeman. In 1927 the property was bought by Charles Emmor & Rose Ellen McCormick who retired from their farm, west of Vermont. The McCormick's occupied the house until Charles Emmor McCormick's death in 1931. Rose Ellen McCormick sold the house and remarried. In the 1940s the house was purchased by Mr. and Mrs. Otto Ward. Mr. and Mrs. Ward were retired farmers and became well-known in the village for the large beds of flowers they planted on the lawn above the highway to the southeast. Zinnias and gladiola were some of their specialties. Today, the house is owned by Ralph Malott and his daughter and her

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
CONTINUATION SHEET

Section 8 Page 14 Ross, Harvey Lee, House
name of property
Fulton County, Illinois
county and State
Architectural and Historic Resources of Vermont
name of multiple property listing
=====

husband, Nelda and James Fell. Ralph Malott maintains a number of cattle on the property using the barn for cattle stalls, feeding, and hay storage.

Endnotes

1. Noble, Allen G. Wood, Brick, and Stone: The North American Settlement Landscape, Volume 2, Barns and Farm Structures. Amherst, Massachusetts: The University of Massachusetts Press, 1984. p. 11-14.
2. Ibid. p. 11.
3. Clarke, S. J. History of McDonough County Illinois, Its Cities, Towns and Villages. Springfield, Illinois: D. W. Lusk, Printer & Binder, 1878. p. 488.
4. Ross, Harvey Lee. The Early Pioneers and Pioneer Events of the State of Illinois. Chicago, Illinois: Eastman Brothers, 1899.

=====

9. Major Bibliographical References

=====

(Cite the books, articles, and other sources used in preparing this form on one or more continuation sheets.)

Previous documentation on file (NPS)

preliminary determination of individual listing (36 CFR 67) has been requested.

previously listed in the National Register

previously determined eligible by the National Register

designated a National Historic Landmark

recorded by Historic American Buildings Survey # _____

recorded by Historic American Engineering Record # _____

Primary Location of Additional Data

State Historic Preservation Office

Other State agency

Federal agency

Local government

University

Other

Name of repository: **Parlin Library, Canton, Illinois**

=====

10. Geographical Data

=====

Acreage of Property **Approximately 1.6 acres**

UTM References (Place additional UTM references on a continuation sheet)

	Zone	Easting	Northing	Zone	Easting	Northing
1	15	718630	4462800	3	_____	_____
2	_____	_____	_____	4	_____	_____
	See continuation sheet.					

Verbal Boundary Description (Describe the boundaries of the property on a continuation sheet.)

Boundary Justification (Explain why the boundaries were selected on a continuation sheet.)

=====

11. Form Prepared By

=====

name/title **David Newton, President**

organization **Vermont Betterment, Inc.**

date **August 15, 1996**

street & number **Box 265**

telephone **309-784-2414**

city or town **Vermont**

state **IL**

zip code **61484**

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
CONTINUATION SHEET

Section 9, 10 Page 15 Ross, Harvey Lee, House
name of property
Fulton County, Illinois
county and State
Architectural and Historic Resources of Vermont
name of multiple property listing

=====

Verbal Boundary Description

The boundaries are described as follows: A part of the Northwest Quarter of Section Thirty-two (32) in Township Four (4) North, Range One (1) East of the Fourth Principal Meridian, more particularly described as follows, to wit: Beginning at the Southeast corner of Lot Number 19 in Saunder's Addition to the Village of Vermont, thence West to the Southwest corner of Lot Number 30 in Saunder's Addition; thence South 275 feet, thence East to the west right of way of South Main Street, thence North 275 feet along said right of way to the point of beginning.

Boundary Justification

The nominated property includes the house, summer kitchen, three-portal barn, outbuildings, and surrounding farm lots historically associated with the Harvey Lee Ross House. The property does not include tilled farm acreage to the south and west of the nominated boundaries.

=====
Additional Documentation
=====

Submit the following items with the completed form:

Continuation Sheets

Maps

- A USGS map (7.5 or 15 minute series) indicating the property's location.
- A sketch map for historic districts and properties having large acreage or numerous resources.

Photographs

Representative black and white photographs of the property.

Additional items (Check with the SHPO or FPO for any additional items)

=====
Property Owner
=====

(Complete this item at the request of the SHPO or FPO.)

name **Ralph Malott; Jim & Nelda Fell**

street & number **602 South Main Street**

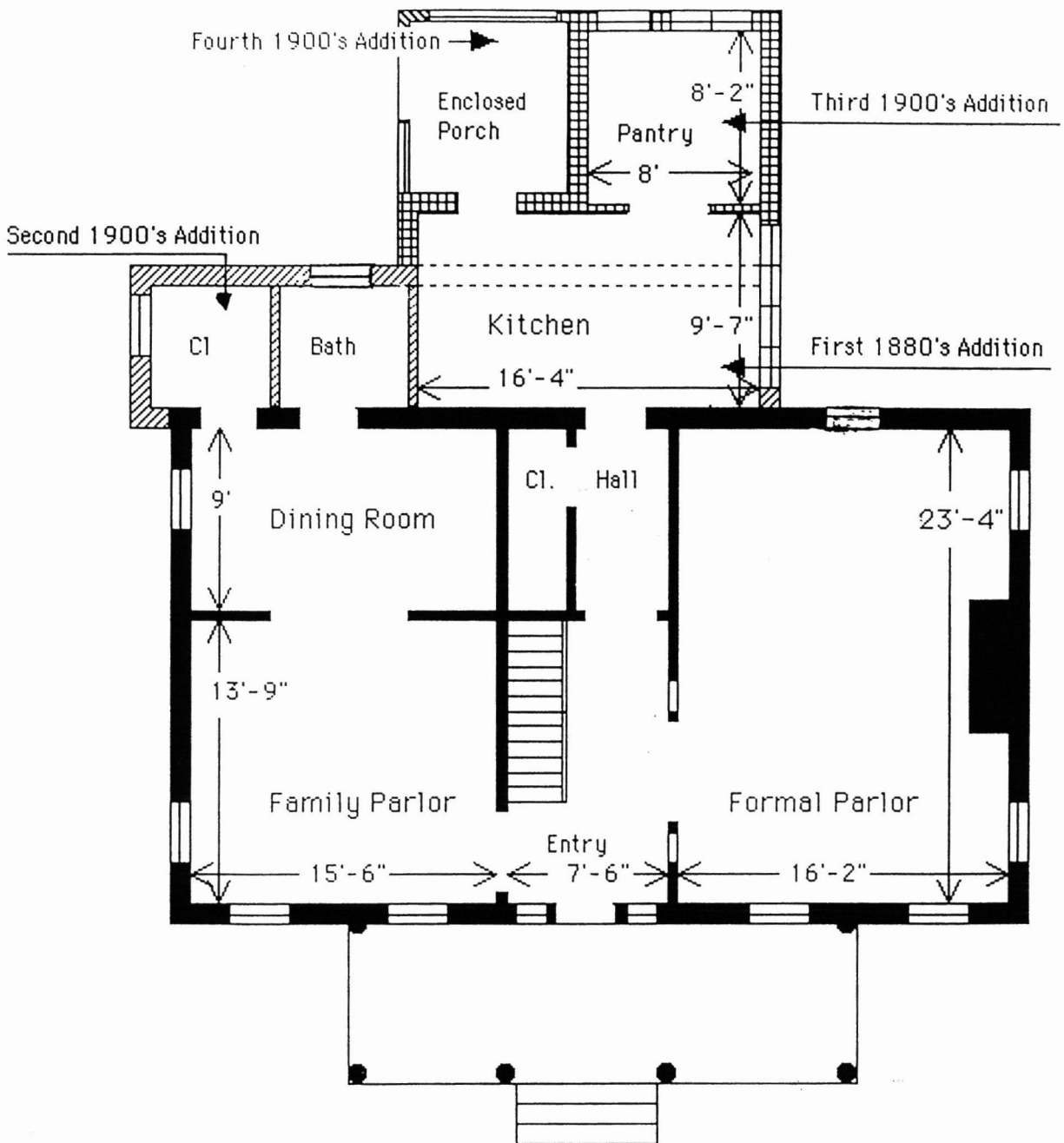
telephone _____

city or town **Vermont**

state **IL** zip code **61484**

=====
Paperwork Reduction Act Statement: This information is being collected for applications to the National Register of Historic Places to nominate properties for listing or determine eligibility for listing, to list properties, and to amend existing listings. Response to this request is required to obtain a benefit in accordance with the National Historic Preservation Act, as amended (16 U.S.C. 470 et seq.).

Estimated Burden Statement: Public reporting burden for this form is estimated to average 18.1 hours per response including the time for reviewing instructions, gathering and maintaining data, and completing and reviewing the form. Direct comments regarding this burden estimate or any aspect of this form to the Chief, Administrative Services Division, National Park Service, P.O. Box 37127, Washington, DC 20013-7127; and the Office of Management and Budget, Paperwork Reductions Project (1024-0018), Washington, DC 20503.



Harvey Lee Ross House

First Story

► North

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
EVALUATION/RETURN SHEET

REQUESTED ACTION: NOMINATION

PROPERTY NAME: Ross, Harvey Lee, House

MULTIPLE NAME: Vermont, Illinois MPS

STATE & COUNTY: ILLINOIS, Fulton

DATE RECEIVED: 10/09/96 DATE OF PENDING LIST: 10/22/96
DATE OF 16TH DAY: 11/07/96 DATE OF 45TH DAY: 11/23/96
DATE OF WEEKLY LIST:

REFERENCE NUMBER: 96001295

NOMINATOR: STATE

REASONS FOR REVIEW:

APPEAL: N DATA PROBLEM: N LANDSCAPE: N LESS THAN 50 YEARS: N
OTHER: N PDIL: N PERIOD: N PROGRAM UNAPPROVED: N
REQUEST: N SAMPLE: N SLR DRAFT: N NATIONAL: N

COMMENT WAIVER: N

ACCEPT RETURN REJECT 11-7-96 DATE

ABSTRACT/SUMMARY COMMENTS:

Entered in the
National Register

RECOM./CRITERIA _____

REVIEWER _____ DISCIPLINE _____

TELEPHONE _____ DATE _____

DOCUMENTATION see attached comments Y/N see attached SLR Y/N



Harvey Lee Ross House
Vermont, Fulton County, IL
Dave Newton

July 1996

101 N. Main Street, Vermont, IL 61484

Front, east facade looking WSW



Harvey Lee Ross House
Vermont, Fulton County, IL

Dave Newton

July 1996

101 N. Main Street, Vermont, IL 61484

North and West facades looking SE



Harvey Lee Ross House

Vermont, Fulton County, IL

Dave Newton

July 1996

101 N. Main Street, Vermont, IL 61484

West Facade Looking ENE



Harvey Lee Ross Ross

Vermont, Fulton County, IL 61484

Dave Newton

July 1996

101 N. Main Street, Vermont, IL 61484

South facade looking NNE



Harvey Lee Ross House

Vermont, Fulton County, IL

Dave Newton

July 1996

101 N. Main Street, Vermont, IL 61484

South + east facades looking NW



Harvey Lee Ross House
Vermont, Fulton County, IL
Dave Newton

July 1996

101 N. Main Street, Vermont, IL 61484

Front entry looking west



Harvey Lee Ross House
Vermont, Fulton County, IL

Dave Newton

July 1996

101 N. Main Street, Vermont, IL 61484

Front porch looking NW



Harvey Lee Ross House
Vermont, Fulton County, IL 61484

Dave Newton

July 1996

101 N. Main Street, Vermont, IL 61484

Front entry, + hall looking East



Harvey Lee Ross House
Vermont, Fulton County, IL

Dave Newton

July 1996

101 N. Main Street, Vermont, IL 61484

Front entry hall and door way to
north formal parlor looking NE



Harvey Lee Ross House

Vermont, Fulton County, IL

Dave Newton

July 1996

101 N. Main Street, Vermont, IL 61484

Stairway looking west



Harvey Lee Ross House
Vermont, Fulton County, IL

Dare Newton

July 1996

101 N. Main Street, Vermont, IL 61484

Fireplace in north parlor



Harvey Lee Ross House
Vermont, Fulton County, IL

Dave Newton

July 1996

101 N. Main Street, Vermont, IL 61484

South, family parlor window looking South



Harvey Lee Ross House
Vermont, Fulton County, IL
Dave Newton

July 1996

101 N. Main Street, Vermont, IL 61484

Summer Kitchen + Garage looking SE



Harvey Lee Ross House
Vermont, Fulton County, IL

Dave Newton

July 1996

101 N. Main Street, Vermont, IL 61484

Privy, Barn, + Shed looking SW

Please refer to the map in the
Multiple Property Cover Sheet
for this property

Multiple Property Cover Sheet Reference Number: 64500210